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Dated: February 7, 2006

Signature:

*Georgina Matos*  
(Georgina Matos)

Docket No.: 146712017300  
Client Ref. No.: STL-3352  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Troy M. HERNDON et al.

Application No.: 10/792,177

Confirmation No.: 3758

Filed: March 2, 2004

Art Unit: 3682

For: MULTI-JOURNAL BEARING MOTOR

Examiner: T. Hannon

### RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated December 7, 2005 (Paper No. 20051201), for which a response was due on January 7, 2006. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a one month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to February 7, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

The Examiner has required restriction between the following inventions as required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-9, drawn to a method of designing a bearing system, classified in class 29, subclass 898.
- II. Claims 10-20, drawn to fluid dynamic bearing systems, classified in class 384, subclass 100.

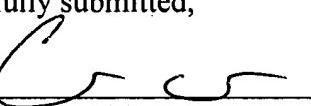
Applicant hereby elects Group I (claims 1-9) without traverse.

Applicant expressly reserves the right under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application directed on the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **146712017300**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: February 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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